GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3226
ANSWERED ON:07.12.2007
GAS BASED POWER PROJECT
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Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any plan to generate power by using LNG and CNG in the country;

(b) if so, whether any study has been conducted in this regard;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof;

(d) the quantum of natural gas available for power generation in the country; and

(e) the details of advantages/disadvantages of use of Natural Gas as a fuel over other fuels for power generation in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF POWER(SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE)

(a) to (c) : Projects for generating power using Natural Gas (NG) and Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) as fuels have been included in the 11th Five-Year Plan. Only those gas/LNG projects have been considered for benefits during 11th Plan where the gas supply has been tied up or the projects are under construction. The proposed capacity addition programme of 78,577 MW during 11th Plan includes 4,266 MW Gas/LNG based projects as per the assessment of Central Electricity Authority (CEA). The details are given at annex-I. The Public and Private sector companies implementing the gas based projects normally undertake studies relating to feasibility, technical and financial viability and fuel supply security in respect of such projects before arriving at investment decisions.

(d) : The quantum of average gas supply during the period April-October, 2007 has been 35.82 Million Standard Cubic Meter Per Day (MMSCMD). The station −wise details are given at annex-II.

(e) : The cost of generation for gas based power projects, at the current price of gas, works out to be higher than that of coal based power projects. However, gas based projects have the following advantages vis-a-vis other fuels:-

Projects can be set up near load centres with gas transported through pipe line.
Transmission losses are minimum since projects are located near load centre.
Fixed cost of generation is low.
Reduced requirement of land, water, O&M personnel, reduced gestation period, reduced emission.